

# Message from Superintendent Ritz

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## Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz July 8, 2016

Earlier this year, the Indiana Department of Education received a \$5 million State Personnel Development Grant from the United States Department of Education. With this grant, the Department established the Indiana Center on Teacher Quality at Indiana University to address the teacher shortage in the area of special education. This Center will work to increase the number of high-quality special education teachers by providing current and prospective teachers with support and resources to be successful in the classroom. The Indiana Center of Teacher Quality will also partner with schools, families and communities to improve educational outcomes for students with disabilities.

Additional information about the Blue Ribbon Commission can be found on the Department's website: [www.doe.in.gov/blueribbon](http://www.doe.in.gov/blueribbon).

In addition, the Department is preparing for another summer in eLearning throughout Indiana. You can find resources for eLearning, as well as upcoming conferences [here](#).

The 2016 Summer Food Service Program is just around the corner. The Summer Food Service Program provides Hoosier children with access to nutritious meals during the summer months. The Department is seeking new sponsors to participate in this years program including school corporations, local government agencies and community organizations, that are able to serve students in high need areas; however, the Department is encouraging sponsors to expand their programs to feed children in underserved areas.

Interested parties who wish to know more about the Summer Food Service Program, including how to participate can be found [here](#).

Finally, the Department has released new guidance for schools focused on changes from the most recent legislative session. You can find the new guidance [here](#). Please check back for additional updates. This weeks guidance focuses on HEA 1005 and pay raises for teachers rated "Improvement Necessary" & "Ineffective" in their first two years of teaching.



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Have a Great week!

Sincerely,

Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Superintendent of Public Instruction

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### ESSA Flexibility Waiver Related News

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is working with State Educations Agencies, like the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), by advising them and listening to them as federal law transitions to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). As we continue to work through USED's rule promulgation of this new law, we will keep schools, teachers and administrators updated on any new finalized items. To follow the progress of this law, USED has provided the public with a WEB PAGE and an FAQ on this transition. We have included it below for you. Thank you and we look forward to working with our stakeholders as we go through this transition. USED ESSA WEB PAGE: [Click Here](#), ESSA FAQ from USED: [Click Here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Federal Relations Director Jeff Coyne at [jcoyne@doe.in.gov](mailto:jcoyne@doe.in.gov).



Through the Hoosier Family of Readers initiative, students and their families across the state have unlimited access to reading material on [myON](#).

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**NEW** - On Friday, the **United States Department of Education** and **Department of Justice** issued guidance to local schools regarding transgender students. You can find the guidance [here](#)

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### IDOE Memoranda

**NEW - 2016 Summer School**, The Department has calculated the estimated distributions for 2016 Summer School. The amounts are calculated using the data submitted by school corporations and charter schools on the Estimated Instructional Costs Report. Final distribution amounts will be determined when actual expenditure data is received this fall. The 2016 Summer School Estimate memo and distribution list are posted on our website at [www.doe.in.gov/finance/summer-school](http://www.doe.in.gov/finance/summer-school) and in the Finance Community of the Learning Connection. If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Roth at [kroth@doe.in.gov](mailto:kroth@doe.in.gov) or Melissa Ambre at [mambre@doe.in.gov](mailto:mambre@doe.in.gov).

**NEW - Assessment Committee Participation**, Soon, different committees will be appointed for various assessment related tasks. The duration of most committees is 2-3 days in length, and committees will tentatively meet during the months of June, July, and August. The attached [memo](#) contains a survey for educators to indicate an interest in serving on an Assessment Committee. ***Survey responses are due by Monday, May 23, 2016.***

**Four Star schools**, Indiana Department of Ed. has posted a preliminary list of Four Star schools for the 2014-2015 year on Learning Connection. These results are not for public release and are embargoed until the Department releases the final list for Four Star Schools. The files are now posted on Learning Connection in the Accreditation Community. The files provide:

- The preliminary list of Four Star schools
- The methodology to identify qualifying schools
- A list of cut scores
- A spreadsheet that details each school's data and qualifying information.

We anticipate releasing the final list late next week. The spreadsheet should answer most questions regarding eligibility, why a school did not receive the award, how close the school was to the cut score, etc. Please log in to review the list, spreadsheet and other information, and report any discrepancies to George Frampton at [frampton@doe.in.gov](mailto:frampton@doe.in.gov) by close of

business Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. It is important to know that the percentages used are from only those students who met the A-F 162 day enrollment requirement. The source of the data is the official data from school accountability.

**2016-2017 Career and Technical Education State CTE Funding:** Indiana Department of Education distributes state CTE funding for student enrollments in state approved Career & Technical Education courses. The CTE funding memo and chart for 2016-2017 have been updated and are now posted on the DOE website at [www.doe.in.gov/cte](http://www.doe.in.gov/cte).

**The Office of School Finance** is now accepting applications for Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB) on a first come, first served basis until the allocation is fully committed. For more information, please see the attached [memo](#). An original copy of the application must be received. Fax or email will not be accepted. If you have questions please contact LaTrice Akers at (317)232-0844 or Melissa Ambre at (317)232-0841.

**Dual Credit Advisory Committee Update:** As many schools are aware, high school teachers who are teaching dual credit courses in Indiana must now meet, or make plans to meet by 2022, the recently revised [credentialing guidelines](#), as set forth by the [Higher Learning Commission](#). For more information, please see attached [memorandum](#)

**Elementary Reading Plan 2016-17**, is due by June 30, 2016. Pursuant to state regulations the State Board of Education is required to request all State Board accredited schools with kindergarten through grade 3 to submit an annual [Elementary Reading Plan](#). Reading Plans should be submitted online to the Department of Education's [web site](#). Principals will utilize their personal school/pin login to access DOE Online.

**2016 IDOE Office of School Finance Budget Workshop**, The Indiana Department of Education Office of School Finance will sponsor a Budget Workshop on Wednesday, June 29, 2016. The workshop will be held in the Performing Arts Center at Pike High School, 6701 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis. See [attachment](#)

**Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse/Neglect**, In the last few months, several schools have been in the news for failing to report suspected child abuse/neglect in a timely manner. The Department is reaching out to schools in an effort to make sure there is an awareness regarding the mandatory reporting requirements. ([read memorandum](#)) If you have any questions about reporting, please feel free to contact at 317-232-6646 or [kbauder@doe.in.gov](mailto:kbauder@doe.in.gov)

**The Indiana Teacher of the Year Program (INTOY)** is excited to announce the 2017 Teacher of the Year Application. Applications are due **July 11, 2016**. Please review the [INTOY Application Packet](#) and the [INTOY Program](#) documents for further information. The application will also be available on our Indiana Teacher of the Year website <http://www.doe.in.gov/toy>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Teacher of the Year Coordinator, Caitlin Beatson, at [cbeatson@doe.in.gov](mailto:cbeatson@doe.in.gov).

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## Professional Development

**NEW - Schoolhouse News**, from the Indiana Association of School Principals is full of timely, pertinent information to keep you up to date and informed regarding educational matters around the state. [www.iasp.org/shn/05.13.16.pdf](http://www.iasp.org/shn/05.13.16.pdf).

**Teachers' Toolbox** - In the May issue of Teachers' Toolbox, our content area specialists have curated a wealth of resources for you as you plan the next school year. Over the summer, our specialists will be traveling around the state providing professional development opportunities for teachers.

**Butler Volleyball is hosting a Math Day Event** in the fall and the cost is only \$1 per students! We would love to host as many Indiana students as we can get! I will be the event coordinator if anyone has any questions. [www.butlervolleyballmathday.weebly.com](http://www.butlervolleyballmathday.weebly.com)

**Indiana School Health conference**, June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in Indianapolis for the annual Indiana School Health conference brought to you by the Indiana School Health Network and Covering Kids and Families of Indiana. [Register now](#) Visit [www.inschoolhealth.org](http://www.inschoolhealth.org) for the latest information

**AP Summer Institute at the Indiana Academy** - The Indiana Academy will be hosting an AP Summer Institute on the campus of Ball State University July 11th-14th and July 18th-21st. The workshops are subject-specific and provide teachers with support and training needed to teach AP courses. For more information visit: [www.bsu.edu/academy/summer](http://www.bsu.edu/academy/summer)

**IDOE PD Series:** Summer lovin, learning and leading, Summer Professional Development

Opportunities for teachers and school leaders. The IDOE is pleased to offer regional summer professional development from our Subject Matter Experts! This half-day workshop will cover a variety of topics that will take participants on a deeper dive into their content areas. see the [attached flyer](#)v.

**Indiana State Library's INSPIRE Digital Literacy Resource**, [INSPIRE](#) has licensed TeachingBooks.net - a service that enhances your literacy work with instructional and primary source materials about the books and authors your students are reading. To learn more register for INSPIRE Webinars covering a variety of topics including Indiana reading lists, cross curricular resources and more. Details [Here](#) or email [accounts@TeachingBooks.net](mailto:accounts@TeachingBooks.net) or call [\(800\) 596-0710](tel:(800)596-0710)

**Indiana State Fair Field Trips** are an opportunity for Classroom and Home Educators to enhance classroom curriculum by utilizing an educational experience that cannot be accomplished in the classroom setting. Field trips require [pre-registration](#) and 15 or more students of the appropriate grade level of the selected field trip.

**Indiana Education Service Centers** offer a variety of professional development opportunities. To learn more about professional learning opportunities in your area, visit the website of an Education Service Center in your area.

- [Region 8 Education Service Center](#)
- [Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Northwest Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Southern Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [East Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [West Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Wabash Valley Education Service Center](#)
- [Wilson Education Center ESC Region 2](#)

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## Legislative & Policy Updates

For updates, check out our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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## Information from Other Agencies

**NEW - Indiana's 21st Century Scholars**: Indiana's 21st Century Scholars Program: Please find a memo from the Indiana Commission of Higher Education regarding upcoming deadlines for the 21st Century Scholars Program [here](#)

**The United States Department of Justice**, Office of Justice Programs and National Institute of Justice recently announced that they are seeking applications for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative. Local schools are allowed to apply and you can find more information here (<http://nij.gov/funding/Documents/solicitations/NIJ-2016-9093.pdf>). The deadline to apply is May 27, 2016.

**The Department of Workforce Development** has released the first edition of their newsletter, *Engage, Align, Advance*, which highlights examples of employer-educator engagement and career readiness work across the state. The newsletter will also include how demand-specific information may be incorporated into the classroom and advising opportunities. To view the first newsletter and to sign up to receive future newsletters, visit:<http://www.in.gov/dwd/EAA.htm>.

**NEW - [This week on The Friday Zone](#)** - Bounce to new heights on a Field Trip to a trampoline park in Evansville. Get tips from a pro that will help you learn to juggle in just a few minutes. An impossible Stuntology stunt involving a skewer and a balloon. [The Friday Zone](#) is a weekly program on Indiana PBS stations that uses hands-on demonstrations to teach children in grades K-2 principles drawn from state educational standards. Check your local station for times.

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